Claims

1-16.   (canceled)

17.   (currently amended) A messaging method, comprising:

selecting a message type for a message for delivery to at least one selected recipient;

evaluating application presence data associated with ~~recipient activity in an~~ a recipient activity status record for an initiated application associated with the selected message type; and

processing the message based on the evaluation.

18.   (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising obtaining the application presence data from a presence repository.

19.   (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising obtaining the application presence data from an application server.

20.   (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising delivering the message to the user if the evaluation indicates that the recipient is available.

21.   (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising discarding the message if the evaluation indicates that the recipient is unavailable.

22.   (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising directing the message to a destination selected based on the evaluation.

23-36. (canceled)

37. (previously presented) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the selected application is at least one of a chat application and an instant messaging application.

38. (new) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the recipient activity status record is associated with how recently the initiated application has been accessed.

39. (new) The messaging method of claim 38, wherein the recipient activity status record is associated with how often the initiated application has been accessed.

40. (new) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the recipient activity status record is associated with how often the initiated application has been accessed.

41. (new) The messaging method of claim 17, further comprising sending an alert to a user and updating the recipient activity status record based on a response to the alert.

42. (new) The messaging method of claim 17, further comprising selecting a time interval, and updating the recipient activity status record based user access to the initiated application during the time interval.